



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

April 15, 2010

Dan Jansen
Rural Development
2701 South Banker, Suite 103A
Effingham, IL 62401

RE: Heritage Woods of Charleston
IDNR Project 1007096

Dear Mr. Jansen:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the Assisted Living Facility located in Charleston. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action is likely to have an adverse impact on Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandi*). These snakes are rare and secretive. They seek refuge in crawfish burrow or beneath logs and surface debris by day and reserve surface activities for nocturnal hours or extremely mild and overcast days. They are found in open to semi-open mesic habitats associated with crayfish burrows. Activity season is March to October with a peak of activity in April and May. Habitats consist of open wet areas in association with crayfish burrows including wet meadows and prairies, swamp-forest habitats, woodland clearings and the grassy edges of waterways. More information can be found at http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/animals_plants/herps/species/cl_kirtlan.html

- Work crews should be educated about the appearance of this snake and told that harming these snakes is a criminal act. If one is found please call IDNR Heritage Biologist, Roger Jansen, 217-345-2420, 1660 W. Polk Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920
- To keep snakes out of the construction areas, exclusionary fencing (silt fencing with the bottom buried).
- Daily inspections should be conducted during the construction period to ensure than exclusionary fencing is properly installed and to check if any snakes are seen inside or outside of the fenced area.

Consultation on the part of the Department is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the developer or IEPA should notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

- Allow the action to proceed as originally proposed;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures if not all will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Evans".

Tracy Evans
Impact Assessment
(217) 782-7940